

PAVILION 103
CZECH REPUBLIC / SLOVAK REPUBLIC
VILLAGE INTERNATIONAL
MARCHÉ DU FILM
CANNES 2009

BLIND LOVES AWARDED

BLIND LOVES (SK 2008) by the first-time Slovak director Juraj Lehotský produced by the Slovak Producer on the Move 2008 Marko Škop, after receiving the CICAIE Art Cinema Award at 40. Directors' Fortnight Cannes 2008, set up for a world festival spree: Karlovy Vary, Toronto, Sydney, Rotterdam, Vancouver, Montreal, London, Hong Kong, etc.. The film was sold to 9 countries so far and won 18 international awards – among others:
FIPRESCI Prize - 10th Motovun Film Festival 2008; Golden Eye for the Best Documentary film - 4th Zurich Film Festival 2008, Special Mention for the Documentary Film - 6th FICCO Mexico City International Contemporary Film Festival 2009; Slovak film critics's award for best documentary (2009) and was national nomination for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 2008.
For a full list of awards for Blind Loves see www.blindloves.com

> For more on awards to Slovak films see catalogue *Slovak Films 07–09*.



BLIND LOVES RELEASED IN CINEMAS ACROSS EUROPE!

After the great success of the film **BLIND LOVES** by Juraj Lehotsky at the 40. Directors' Fortnight in Cannes 2008, followed by numerous achievements at international film festivals, the Slovak film was sold for theatrical distribution to 9 countries so far:

Country	Distribution Company	Release Date
Austria	Polyfilm	TBA
Belgium	Benelux Film Distribution	February 11, 2009
Czech Republic	Artcam	September 3, 2009
France	Allocine.com	February 11, 2009
Hungary	Cirko-film	March 19, 2009
Netherlands	Cinema Delicatessen	March 5, 2009
Poland	Against Gravity	May 10, 2009
Switzerland	Look Now!	April 9, 2009
United Kingdom	ICA	May 22, 2009

SOUL AT PEACE TO COMPETE AT KARLOVY VARY IFF



Slovak film **SOUL AT PEACE** by Vladimír Balko has been selected for the Official Selection – Competition at 44. Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2009 (July 3.-11., 2009).

After five year, a majority Slovak film production is thus again included in the main competition of this important, A* film festival, since **CRUEL JOYS** by Juraj Nvota, (SK-CZ 2002) competed for the Crystal Globe for Best Feature Film in Karlovy Vary in 2003.

In 2005, two further Slovak co-production films were fitted for the Crystal Globe at Karlovy Vary IFF: **CITY OF THE SUN** by Martin Šulík (CZ-SK 2005) and **UNBURIED DEAD** by Márta Meszáros (HU-PL-SK 2005).



Balko's debut **SOUL AT PEACE** is based on a screenplay by Jiří Křižan, following the story of Tono, a man in his forties who returns to his native village after years in prison to discover that attempts to eliminate the shadows of the past will be more difficult than he had envisaged.



OSADNÉ (aka OSADNÉ – BRUSSELS – OSADNÉ), second film by Marko Škop (director of **OTHER WORLDS**, producer of **BLIND LOVES**) will feature the Documentary Film in Competition at the festival in its world premiere. **OSADNÉ** is a documentary about the meeting of today's leaders of Europe and local politicians from the very last village on the border of the European Union.

In addition, Karlovy Vary IFF will pay tribute to the Slovak director Peter Solan and present one of the treasures of Slovak cinematography **THE BOXER AND THE DEATH** (Czechoslovakia, 1962). The documentary film **SNAPSHOTS** by Peter Krišťufek, about the late rock musician, composer and filmmaker Dežo Ursiny, an enigmatic and unclassifiable figure of the Czechoslovak music scene, will be shown in the festival section A Musical Odyssey.

> For more visit www.aic.sk, www.kviff.com.



SLOVAK FILMS 07-09 - UPDATE

Updated catalogue of Slovak films and a guide to Slovak film Industry presented in Cannes 2009. **Catalogue:** general info on the slovak republic, full-length films 2007 – 2009, upcoming Slovak films, selected shorts 2007–2009. **Slovak Film Guide:** awards for Slovak films, film productions made in slovakia, facts and figures, financial support, address book. Hardcopy of the catalogue you will get in Pavilion 103 – Village International, online version available at www.aic.sk.

NEWS FROM THE SLOVAK FILM INSTITUTE

Slovak Film Institute is the only national organization active in the field of cinematography in Slovakia and fulfils its main duties as the film archive, documentation and promotion centre. It is also the owner of producer's rights to Slovak films made in 1895-1991. As part of its activities, SFI occasionally enters into co-productions of films with expert and dramaturgy co-operation as well as with archive film materials. In the program of the Slovak part of the International Film Festival Febiofest in April 2009, 40 Slovak films were presented, thereof 14 documentary films and portraits of filmmakers in which the Slovak Film Institute participated as a co-production partner.

Selection of Slovak Film Institute's co-productions:
SNAPSHOTS (Momentky), dir. P. Krišťufek, SK 2008
KOLIBA (Koliba), dir. Z. Piussi, SK 2009
BEFORE THIS FILM IS OVER (Kým sa skončí tento film), dir. T. Hučko, SK 2009

BETWEEN 4-5,6 (Medzi 4-5,6), dir. V. Balco, SK 2008
THE JOURNEY OF MAGDALÉNA ROBINSONOVÁ (Cesta Magdalény Robinsonovej), dir. M. Šulík, SK 2008
GOLDEN SIXTIES (Zlatá šedesátá), dir. M. Šulík, CZ-SK 2009 (26 x 57 min documentary portraits)

> For more see catalogue *Slovak Films 07-09* or www.aic.sk.

AWARDS TO SLOVAK FILMS

SUN IN A NET 2008 (Slovak National Film Awards)

In 2008, for the second time in history, the biennial Slovak National Film Awards "Sun in a Net" were awarded to films and filmmakers for the period of 2006 and 2007.

MUSIC (Muzika, SK-DE, dir. J. Nvota) – best film, best director, best screenplay, best actor, best actress in supporting role, best editor, best sound, best music, best art direction
OTHER WORLDS (Iné svety, SK-CZ, dir. Marko Škop) – best documentary
FOUR (Štyri, SK, dir. Ivana Šebestová) – best animation
MARTIN SLIVKA – THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES (Martin Slivka – Muž, ktorý sadil stromy, SK, dir. Martin Šulík) – best cinematography
I SERVED THE KING OF ENGLAND (Osluhoval jsem anglického krále, CZ-SK, dir. Jiří Menzel) – best actor in supporting role
LITTLE GIRL BLUE (Tajnosti, CZ-SK, dir. Alice Nellis) – best actress
GRBAVICA (BA-AT-DE-HR, dir. Jasmila Žbanić) – best foreign film
VINCENT ROSINEC, MAXIMILIÁN REMEN – award for outstanding contribution to Slovak cinematography
IVANA ŠEBESTOVÁ – Award to a young filmmaker up to 35 years

ADMISSIONS GROW FOR SLOVAK FILMS

After several years of low admissions for Slovak films the number of viewers seeing Slovak films in Slovak cinemas has started growing. The list of Top 10 Slovak films since 1993 is headed by the biggest box office of 2008,

BATHORY by J. Jakubisko, which reached over 430.000 viewers since its release in July 2008 and became the most successful Slovak film in Slovak history.
BLIND LOVES by J. Lehotský became 2nd best visited Slovak documentary since 1993 with over 12.000 viewers since release in March 2008. In 2009,

SOUL AT PEACE by V. Balko turned into a local box office hit by gaining over 110.000 viewers since its Slovak premiere in January 2009, thus ranking no. 3 in TOP 10 Slovak Films 1993 – 2009 by admission.

Table: Top 5 Slovak films 01-03/2009

No.	Slovak Title	English Title	Distributor - SK	Release date	Production	Admissions	Cummulative Admission
1	Pokoj v duši	Soul at Peace	Anna Kováčová	29.01.09	SK	110 838	110 838
2	Sněženky a machři po 25 letech	The Great Thaw	SPI International	26.02.09	CZ-SK	38 779	38 779
3	Tango s komáři	Mosquito's Tango	Continental Film	22.01.09	SK-CZ	37 861	37 861
4	Bathory	Bathory	Tatrafilm	10.07.08	SK-CZ-UK-HU	3 118	430 019
5	Ako sa varia dejiny	Cooking History	SPI International	19.02.09	AT-SK-CZ	2 910	2 910

NEW SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL FUND

In January 1, 2009, the Law on Audiovisual Fund (no.516/2008 Coll.) came into force, thus, the new Slovak **AUDIOVISUAL FUND** was established.

Thus, almost twenty years after the termination of the state monopoly on film production new professional public institution for the support and development of the Slovak audiovisual industry and culture has been established. The Fund replaces the present grant system of the Ministry of Culture "AudioVision" and expands support means and sources.

First payments to the Fund will be realized in 2010, when the Fund fully starts its activity (in 2009, main Fund bodies and administration will be established and the preparations for the support activities will be in process).
On March 30, 2009, Marek Madarič, Minister of Culture of the Slovak Republic, appointed 9 professionals from the Slovak audiovisual industry who will begin their six-year term as board members of the newly-established Audiovisual Fund. Slovak film producer Patrik Pašš became the Chairman of the Board.

Expected financial resources of the Fund for 2010 are 8 million EUR. First call for applications will be announced for November 2009.

> For more information visit www.culture.gov.sk, www.aic.sk.